IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A control method for a magnetic disk drive including a magnetic disk ~~media~~ medium, a slider mounting thereon a magnetic head facing said magnetic disk ~~media~~ medium, support members for supporting said slider, an actuator for rotatably supporting said support members, an electronic circuit for controlling drive of said actuator and signal processing, and a holding member for holding said slider, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

a setting step for setting a parameter for driving said actuator in each of plural stepwise movements of said slider following a shape of said holding member;

an unload step for starting a process for holding said slider on said holding member while reading information from said magnetic disk ~~media~~ medium through said magnetic head, before causing said slider to move from said magnetic disk medium onto said holding member; and

a load step for causing said magnetic head to read the information from said magnetic disk ~~media~~ medium while following said holding member, ~~after starting said process for~~ before causing said slider to land from said holding member onto said magnetic disk ~~media~~ medium.

2. (Currently Amended) The control method according to Claim 1, wherein

said process for holding said slider ~~following~~ on said holding member is divided into two or more ~~steps~~ stepwise movements in advance, and at the end of movement of said slider in each of said two or more ~~steps~~ stepwise movements, the value of a voltage or a current for driving said actuator is stored.

3. (Currently Amended) The control method according to Claim 1, wherein

said process for holding said slider ~~following~~ on said holding member is divided into two or more ~~steps~~ stepwise movements in advance, and the value of a voltage or a current for driving said actuator is constant in each or said two or more ~~steps~~ stepwise movements.

4. (Currently Amended) A magnetic disk drive, comprising:

a magnetic disk ~~media~~ medium;

a slider mounting thereon a magnetic head facing said magnetic disk ~~media~~ medium;

support members for supporting said slider;

an actuator for rotatably supporting said support members; and

an electronic circuit for controlling drive of said actuator and signal processing, the electronic circuit having

a function of setting a parameter for driving said actuator in each of ~~said~~ two or more ~~steps~~ stepwise movements for moving said slider while following a shape of said holding member, and

a function of performing a mechanical load/unload operation smoothly using said set parameter[[s]].